

Message Text

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TAGS PGOV, GR

SUBJ: ELECTORAL COURT INVALIDATES ELECTIONS OF TWELVE
DEPUTIES

1. ELECTORAL COURT ANNOUNCED SERIES OF DECISIONS MARCH 27 AND 28 WHICH HAVE EFFECT OF ANNULING ELECTION OF 12 PARLIAMENTARY DEPUTIES (FROM SIX DIFFERENT ELECTORAL DISTRICTS) WHO HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED AS VICTORS IN THE NOV 17,74 ELECTIONS. EIGHT OF THESE DEPUTIES ARE FROM THE NEA DEMOCRATIA PARTY (ND) AND FOUR FROM THE CENTER UNION/NEW FORCES (CU/NF). GROUNDS FOR THE ANNULING OF THESE ELECTIONS RELATED EITHER TO THE (A) ABSENCE OF JUDICIAL REPRESENTATIVES AT TIME OF ELECTIONS AT CERTAIN POLLING PLACES WITHIN THE DISTRICTS OR (B) MISTAKES COMMITTED IN THE COUNTING OR PROCESSING OF THE BALLOTS CAST. IN ONE OF THE TWELVE CASES, THE COURT WAS ABLE TO IMMEDIATELY DECLARE THE NEW INCUMBENT FOR THE CONTESTED SEAT, I.E. PASOK CANDIDATE KOUTSOGEOGAS WOULD REPLACE ND INCUMBENT NIKOLOPOULOS TO REPRESENT PATRAS IN THE DISTRICT OF ACHAIA.

2. FOR THE REMAINING 11 PARLIAMENTARY SEATS, NEW ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD WITHIN THE POLLING AREAS WHERE THE DISCREPANCIES OCCURRED AND, ONCE THESE RESULTS ARE TALLIED, THE NEW INCUMBENT WILL BE DECLARED. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THESE ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 20, THE SAME DATE AS ON WHICH THE PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED BY-ELECTIONS (ATHENS 2329) WILL BE HELD FOR

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VACANCIES WHICH HAD OCCURRED FOR TWO SEATS IN THE CORFU AND

KOZANI DISTRICTS.

3. IN THE INTERIM, THE PARLIAMENTARY SEATS WHICH ARE CONTESTED AS
A RESULT OF THE ELECTORAL COURT DECISION WILL BE VACANT.

THIS WAS VERIFIED TO EMBASSY STAFF APRIL 1 BY A PARLIAMENTARY
OFFICIAL. THUS, UNTIL APRIL 20 THE COMPOSITION OF PARLIAMENT WILL BE
(A) ND-210, (B) CU/NF-56, (C) PASOK-13, (D) THE LEFT-8.

THE DECISION OF THE ELECTORAL COURT IN THESE MATTERS IS
FINAL AND NO APPEAL MAY BE LODGED.

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